Council Proceedings.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, January, 13, 1887.

The Board of Aldermen of 1886 held their closing session January 13th, in No. 1 Committee room Present—Mayor Hodgens (in the chair), Ald. Kingston, Garrett, McDonald, Taylor, Heaman, Bartlett, O'Meara, Boyd, Stringer, Hiscox, Davis.

COMMUNICATIONS WERE READ

From Robert F. McRoberts—For free use of the City Hall on the 25th inst. Granted.

From Meredith & Meredith—A notification issued on behalf of G. T. Hiscox, stating that in the event of the money granted to the reporters being paid to them he will hold the members personally responsible, and enter action accordingly. No 1.

From Dr. Wilson—For appointment on the visiting staff of the Hospital. New Council.

From Rev J. B Richardson—For remission of taxes of Mrs Reason No. 1.

From Henry Webb—For permission to erect a small frame building on Richmond street. Granted, providing no objections be raised.

From P. C Barnard—For appointment as Assessor. New Council.

From Messrs. Buckle and Grant, as follows:—

"With regard to the discussion at the last meeting of the Council in reference to names alleged to have been left off the voters' lists, the assessors beg to state that they are responsible for the correctness of the assessment rolls, and no other work, and herewith submit said rolls for examination.

"The assessors also beg to call the attention of the Council to the fact that in 1876, ten years ago, the amount paid the assessors was $500 each; that in that year the assessment was about eight millions, and the number of entries 5,418; that in 1886 the assessment was over twelve millions, and the number of entries on the roll 11.718, more than double the entries of 1876; that in 1883 two additional columns were added to the roll, requiring that Public and Separate School supporters be so designated; that in 1884 a column of surveys was added; that in 1886 the assessors were required to number all the houses in the city, and also make a census of the school population, and in addition assess London East for which they received $700 each, out of which sum they had to pay their own assistants. This year additional work is required to block out part of the city, which will entail increased labor. We herewith submit copies of the notices used in 1882, and those now in use, which will show the increased work required.

"The assessors request your Honorable Body to favorably consider these facts, and make such addition to their salaries as will be adequate to the increased work."

Ald Kingston said the assessors were present in their own defense, and on his motion, seconded by that of Ald. Boyd, it was decided that they be heard.

Mr Stephen Grant felt that he was here merely to answer questions to the roll, and he was under the impression that it was the voters' list the Council were finding fault with the other night. Of course, the assessors had nothing to do with the voters' list.

Mr Buckle said it was not their duty to have anything to do with the voters' list. They had tried to do their duty faithfully, and were prepared now before any Committee to make a comparison of values of property. He spoke of the opportunities offered for correcting any mistake that might be made in the rolls, and the difficulties the assessors had to undergo. He believed they had enough to do to fight the public outside without fighting the Council, and if they did not do it properly he did not want the position.

Ald Stringer enquired in regard to the assessment of the breweries, and the reduction made on account of the Scott Act.